

Proceedings of the Eleventh Regular
Quarterly Meeting of the Pacific
Coast Entomological Society.

The Eleventh regular Quarterly Meeting of the Pacific Coast Entomological Society was held on the evening of Feb 20th, 1904, at the residence of Miss Julia Wright, 2329 Pacific Ave., Alameda, Calif.

President Gnuch in the chair.

Minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

Eleven members responded to roll call: -

Chas. Gnuch, J. S. Hunter, J. E. Cottle,
L. E. Ricksacker, Julia Wright, Bertha Chapman,
Dr. E. C. Van Dyke, Fordyce Grinnell, J. C. Huguenin,
F. W. Muenchmayer, Dr. H. E. Blaisdell.

The following invited guests were present: -

Mrs Bessie Wright, Mrs J. E. Cottle, Mrs J. C. Huguenin,
Mrs. F. E. Blaisdell, Mr. A. Wright, Mrs A. Wright,
Mrs Chas Gnuch, Ernst Strubberg, W. H. Volck,
Mrs Helen Ricksacker, Mrs L. C. Martin, F. X. Williams

Mr. President: -

The following is the Quarterly
Treasurer's report for quarter just ended: -

Dues rec'd at last meeting,	\$ 2.50
Bal. in Treasury at last meeting,	7.15
Dues rec'd ^{since} at last meeting,	1.50
Expenses since last meeting,	
Total	\$ 10.15
	<u>2.15</u>

RECEIVED CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE 50 CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE 50 CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE 50

Bal. in Treasury 8.00

G. E. Blaisdell, 4 years.

Mr. Francis X. Williams was elected to membership.

Mr. Fordyce Grinnell then read a paper - "An Early Californian Collector".

Mr. Chas. Yuchs followed with a paper on Coccinellidae - "Their Habits and Value".

Mr. L. E. Rickercher stated that he had recently received a letter from Mr. Blanchard, stating that he was still at work on entomological studies.

Mr. Rickercher then gave reminiscences on collecting from an old stump - "And a big one at that"! He referred especially to some Glaterides of the subfamily Encymininae, - a Dromaeolus, and that he had distributed them all over the U. S. Mr. Blanchard wanted more, as he had sent some D. hospitalis among the others. Those found on spruce are D. californicus, while the food plant of D. hospitalis is the alder. Dr. Van Dyke stated that he found D. humeralis and californicus on pine and spruce.

Mr. Rickercher stated that Beetles feeding on certain Coniferae will come to spruce in Sonoma Co., as there are no other Coniferae there. Douglas's spruce is probably the food plant.

Mr. F. X. Williams then called upon respondent with remarks on a trip to Echo Lake in Shasta Co. in June. He found it cold - several Carabidae and Buprestidae were taken. Lepidoptera were not abundant - Thecla dumeatorum, Lycena prodace, and Sphinx per elegans were taken. The country is rocky and rugged above the coniferous belt, the Mangnathas predominated. Chironomus were taken there.

10. 11. 1880

10. 11. 1880

10. 11. 1880

10. 11. 1880

10. 11. 1880

10. 11. 1880

10. 11. 1880

10. 11. 1880

10. 11. 1880

10. 11. 1880

Mr Cottle then spoke about the May meeting
and that some place should be determined
upon for that Field Day.

It was mentioned that the Society go to
Alma, Santa Clara Co., as Mr J. G. Grinnell
was willing and desirous to aid the Society
in making the day an event.

Mr L. E. Kickercher was desirous
to have the meeting in Sonoma Co..

Miss Julia Wright exhibited a box of
Yasmanian beetles.

Mr H. W. Munenmacher, Hylotropes ligneus
and Polygon sp.

There being no more business before
the Society, social discourse and refresh-
ments followed.

A feature of the evening were the
souvenir cards prepared by Miss Julia
Wright. Each member present as far
as could be determined before hand
received a card with his favorite insect
painted upon it. The evening was a
most enjoyable one

J. E. Blissdell Sec.
1800 O'Farrell St.,
San Francisco.

AN EARLY CALIFORNIA COLLECTOR.

Pierre Joseph Michel Lorquin was born in Valenciennes Northern France, about the year 1800. He entered the University of Douay, graduating with honors, when he entered a notary's office as first clerk and rose steadily until he obtained papers which entitled him to practice his profession. In 1840 he removed to Paris where he was referee in the High Tribunal: this was a high office at that time and the occupant was of considerable importance. In 1848 the Revolution broke out and Lorquin applied for a position in Algiers: he obtained this and took up his residence at that place: this was his first most important voyage and here he collected a great amount of valuable and interesting lepidopterological material.

Hearing of the discovery of gold in California in 1850, he relinquished his position and set out for the new El Dorado: but gold was not first in his mind: it was the thought of the virgin field he would be the first to explore scientifically, and the number of new things he would be sure to get. He arrived in 1850 and started for the mines in Tuolumne County, probably no doubt to practice his profession as a lawyer, as there was plenty for lawyers to do in those days of '49. Here he began his collections. He sent for his family: and they arriving in 1852, he set out for a tour of the northern part of California: from Sacramento, he went to Downieville, Plumas County, Eldorado County, Stockton and Carson City, Nevada. His excursions were continued in the South where he visited Los Angeles and San Diego: At the latter place he obtained *Lycaena regis* or *sonoriensis*. On account of his son's health, he returned to San Francisco. The next year, 1854, he started on another excursion northward and visited Monte Cristo in Sierra County, Yuba River, Anador County, Calaveras County, Mariposa County, south to Fresno County, and north to Marin County and Sonoma County till 1856. In the latter year, he started out for Manilla, Philippine Islands, but came back again in 1861, when he remained one year. In 1862, he left for Cochin China and visited the following places in turn always collecting Lepidoptera:-- Hong Kong, China, several islands of the Philippine group, Celebes, Amu Islands, Ceram, Amboyna, Ternate, Gilolo and Java. In the latter place he had an attack of fever which compelled him to remain in a hospital for some time. When he recovered, he returned in 1870 to Paris. He travelled a little in Southern France and Spain collecting butterflies and moths. He

had prepared to return to the Philippines again but died only a few days before he was to start in 1877.

Mr. Lorquin was a medium sized man, and had a very strong constitution which enabled him to travel everywhere in search of specimens, always on foot. He was a great pedestrian, being able to walk long distances without being fatigued. In his travels in the East Indies, he lived with the natives by whom he was much helped in his travels and collecting.

Mr. Lorquin is an important character in California Entomology as almost all the lepidoptera described from the Pacific Coast by Boisduval were collected by this man. Dr. Boisduval was Lorquin's family physician.

In 1852, Dr. Herman Behr and Mr. Lorquin met in San Francisco and from that time were close friends. Dr. Boisduval always sent a specimen of each species when he described it back to Lorquin and these co-types were turned over to Dr. Behr and are now preserved in the museum of the California Academy of Sciences. Lorquin also collected other insects, especially beetles, and one, a cerambycid, is called *Calloides lorquinii*.

Mr. Lorquin never learned English well enough to converse in the Philippines. As told by Dr. Behr, there was a gentleman that he was now just on the point of learning English and now had to drop the project.

Pierre Joseph Michel Lorquin holds a unique position in California Entomology as the discoverer of so many of our species and will always be thought of in connection with that noted group of California students of the Lepidoptera-- Behr, Behrens, Stretch, Henry Edwards and Rivers.

I am indebted to Mr. E. F. Lorquin of San Francisco for these particulars in regard to his father's life.

had proposed to return to the Philippines again but died only a few days before he was to start in 1877. Mr. Loomis was a medium sized man, and had a very strong constitution which enabled him to travel everywhere in search of specimens, always on foot. He was a great naturalist, being able to walk long distances without being fatigued. In his travels in the East Indies, he lived with the natives, whom he was much helped in his travels and collecting.

Mr. Loomis is an important character in California Entomology as almost all the lepidoptera described from the Pacific Coast by Hübner were collected by this man. Dr. Hübner was Loomis's family physician.

In 1862, Dr. Hermann Dohrn and Mr. Loomis were in San Francisco and from that time were close friends. Dr. Hübner always sent a specimen of each species which he described to Loomis as a permanent reference. They were turned over to Dr. Dohrn and are now preserved in the museum of the California Academy of Sciences. Loomis also collected other insects, especially beetles, and was a collector of the California Lepidoptera. His collection of insects is now in the possession of the California Academy of Sciences. Loomis was not only a collector of insects but also a writer on the subject of Insect Life and how to keep the insect.

Francis Joseph Hübner holds a unique position in California Entomology as the discoverer of a many of our species and will always be known to us as the collector of the most important group of California insects of the Lepidoptera--Bombyx, Bombyx, Bombyx, Bombyx, Bombyx and Bombyx.

I am indebted to Mr. F. E. Loomis of San Francisco for these particulars in regard to his father's life.

HABITS & VALUE of the COCCINELLIDAE.

by Charles Fuchs.

I believe everyone is familiar with the so-called lady-bird, a beetle belonging to the family of the Coccinellidae: a little scarlet beetle whose back is variegated with many dots and designs. It feeds mainly on plant lice which infest trees and shrubbery and for that reason were named Aphidiphagi by Latreille. The larva of the Coccinella is so voracious that it is worthy of particular attention. In the fall of the year when the sap of the plants diminishes and the cold weather sets in and there are no more aphides, the beetle seeks shelter in great multitudes for the winter period. On one occasion I found in the State of New York about four hundred of the *Megilla maculata* under the bark of an old snow clad tree. They were in quite a frozen condition, but upon being transported into the warm atmosphere of my room, soon recovered consciousness. The first mild spring days aroused them from their winter sleep. Every orchardist is aware of the value of the black lady bug with two large red spots. Without this insect scale bugs and plant lice would have been dominant over all orchards.

To illustrate the importance of the Coccinellidae, I should like to add that the Agricultural Department in Washington, D.C. considered it opportune to send their eminent field agent, Mr. Albert Koebele to Australia, to gather specimens of the family of Coccinellidae and to transport them into California. Mr. Koebele is entitled to worthy esteem for achieving this which is both interesting and valuable. The account thereof, published in the Bulletin No. 21, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Division of Entomology, gives excellent and useful disclosures.

My intentions are not to enter upon a scientific discussion, as we have so many works written by famous entomologists, viz:--Leconte, Mulsant and others. I merely wish to indicate clearly the singular and almost universal admiration with which this tiny creature is regarded and the care with which it is protected. Even the little naughty boys who torment all other insects, which are without means of repelling assault, have a tender consideration for these beloved friends.

The popular names given to these beetles indicate that man has a striking compassion for them. . Thus in America it is called "Lady bug" and in England the common name applied to them is "Lady bird." In England when examples of these little beetles are found by the children, they are placed upon the tip of a finger and breathed upon and enticed to fly while the children sing "Lady bird, Lady bird, fly away home: your house is on fire, your children at home." In Germany, the beetle is called "Sonnenkaelbchen" (little sun calf), "Gottesschaeflein" (God's little sheep), or "Marienwuermchen" (the little worm of the Holy Mary). In France "Vache a Dieu" (God's cow), "Cheval a Dieu" (God's horse) and "Bete de la Vierge" (animal of the Holy Virgin).

All these names existed long before science had discovered the utility of these insects. It is indisputable that, already before our great entomologist Linne lived, this class of beetles fulfilled that work which nature has laid out for them and without doubt were observed by sagacious men who comprehended their mission. The people know nothing of their beneficial work, but notwithstanding this, they love and cherish them.

The first thing I noticed when I stepped out of the car was a warm, sun-drenched breeze. The air was thick with the scent of blooming flowers and the distant hum of traffic. I took a deep breath, feeling a sense of freedom and possibility. The world around me seemed to be holding its breath, waiting for me to take the first step. I smiled, knowing that this was my chance to start anew, to begin a journey that would lead me to the heart of the matter. The sun was high in the sky, casting long shadows and painting the world in shades of gold and light. I felt a sense of peace and tranquility, knowing that I was exactly where I needed to be. The world was my oyster, and I was about to open it. I took a deep breath, feeling a sense of freedom and possibility. The world around me seemed to be holding its breath, waiting for me to take the first step. I smiled, knowing that this was my chance to start anew, to begin a journey that would lead me to the heart of the matter. The sun was high in the sky, casting long shadows and painting the world in shades of gold and light. I felt a sense of peace and tranquility, knowing that I was exactly where I needed to be. The world was my oyster, and I was about to open it.